



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MAIL STOP AF

In re Patent Application of

Masahiko Tanaka et al.

Application No.: 09/862,458

Filing Date: May 23, 2001

Title: THIN-FILM DISPOSITION APPARATUS

Group Art Unit: 1763

Examiner: KARLA A MOORE

Confirmation No.: 7476

AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application.

- A Petition for Extension of Time is also enclosed.
 Terminal Disclaimer(s) and the \$65.00 (2814) \$130.00 (1814) fee per Disclaimer due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d) are also enclosed.
 Also enclosed is/are _____

- Small entity status is hereby claimed.
 Applicant(s) requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the \$395.00 (2801) \$790.00 (1801) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).
 Applicant(s) requests that any previously unentered after final amendments not be entered. Continued examination is requested based on the enclosed documents identified above.
 Applicant(s) previously submitted _____

on _____, for which continued examination is requested.

- Applicant(s) requests suspension of action by the Office until at least _____, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.
 A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) (1809/2809) is also enclosed.

- No additional claim fee is required.
- An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below.

AMENDED CLAIMS					
	No. of Claims	Highest No. of Claims Previously Paid For	Extra Claims	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims		MINUS =	0	x \$50.00 (1202) =	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims		MINUS =	0	x \$200.00 (1201) =	\$ 0.00
If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$360.00 (1203)					
Total Claim Amendment Fee					\$ 0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Status claimed - subtract 50% of Total Claim Amendment Fee					\$ 0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL CLAIM FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$ 0.00

- A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed for the fee due.
- Charge _____ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.
- Charge _____ to credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

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Date: June 21, 2005

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Re Patent Application of) **MAIL STOP AF**
Masahiko Tanaka et al.)
Application No.: 09/862,458) Group Art Unit: 1763
Filed: May 23, 2001) Examiner: KARLA A MOORE
For: THIN-FILM DISPOSITION) Confirmation No.: 7476
APPARATUS)
)
)
)

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated March 21, 2005, the examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the present application.

The Examiner is thanked for the careful examination of the application and for the indication of allowable subject matter. However, in view of the remarks that follow, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 14, 15, 20-24, and 26-28 have been rejected as allegedly being obvious over JP 11-168094, hereinafter *Yuda*, in view of USP 6,086,677, hereinafter *Umotoy*, and further in view of USP 5,102,523, hereinafter *Beisswengerwenger*. *Yuda* is relied upon for its teaching of a vacuum reaction chamber that allegedly includes a *dividing plate* separating the vacuum chamber into two spaces. *Umotoy* is relied upon for its alleged teaching of a distribution plate having separate passages extending therethrough and fusing together the plates of the distribution plate. And, *Beisswenger* is relied upon for allegedly teaching that the